

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
The joint PARISH COUNCIL of COVENHAM
St. BARTHOLOMEW & COVENHAM St. MARY**

Held on the 13th March 2018 at Covenham St. Bartholomew Parish Rooms

Present: - Councillors: E. Cooling (Chair) C. Denny
P. Burd J. Field
D. Tall D. Wiltshire
S. Booth (Clerk)

Public: - 2 + County Cllr Bridges

18/18. Chair's welcome

- The Chair welcomed both Councillors and members of the public to the meeting and explained the building was non- smoking building and where the fire exits were in an emergency.

19/18. Apologies for absence

- No apologies were received. Cllr Brader was not present.

20/18. Declaration of Interest under Code of Conduct 2012

- a) To record declarations of interest by any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared. *Cllr Field, Denny and Tall item 26/18a iv*
- b) To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. *None*

21/18. Minutes of the previous meeting

- Had been previously circulated. Amendments were made to item 8/18. It was proposed by Cllr Denny and seconded by Cllr Field to accept the Minutes. All in favour. Resolved to accept minutes. These be adopted as a true record'.

22/18. Chair's update on matters outstanding

- Thanks offered to volunteers who have tidied St Barts churchyard, snowdrops are now visible for the first time in years.
- Dog fouling stencils have been placed on footpaths around the village.
- Bank mandate finally approved, a new financial start for the Parish Council.
- Offer of thanks to Cllr Burd for all of his hard efforts in submitting the Transparency fund application.

23/18. Co-option of Councillor

- Mr John Firth was interviewed by Councillors. Cllr Wiltshire proposed and Cllr Tall seconded accepting Mr Firth onto the Parish Council. Acceptance of office and pecuniary interest forms were given to Mr Firth to complete. **Cllr Firth joined the Council.**

24/18. Open Forum

Resident reported the footpath outside St Barts Church is very hazardous. Also gutters are filled with mud which is being washed into the drains. Clerk to report.

25/18. To receive reports from

a) LCC - Brexit is 12 months away, Cllr Bridges has written to the leader of LCC with concerns about a potential reduction in EU nationals coming to Lincolnshire after Brexit and fairer funding for Lincolnshire after Brexit. Fairer funding isn't guaranteed and depends on the government so Lincolnshire must be kept high profile to gain the funding it needs and is fairly entitled to.

Cllr Bridges will be attending a meeting with the local MP Victoria Atkins where fairer funding for Lincolnshire will be pushed for.

Portfolio Holder for Highways, Cllr Richard Davies, is touring all divisions in Lincolnshire. Cllr Bridges would like all known Highways problems and issues reporting to him so that he can make Cllr Davies aware of the problems. This includes potholes, hazardous footpaths (see 24/18) speeding vehicles.

Cllr Bridges is being told about potholes getting bigger and deeper in all parts of his division. £8 million has been released to rectify the faults but Cllr Davies will make the decision where the funding is spent.

b) ELDC – no report

c) Outside representatives – no report.

26/17. Planning matters

**All application comments are available to view at www.e-lindsey.gov.uk*

***Applications may not be discussed at meetings due to deadlines and lack of internet connection to allow plans to be viewed*

a) Planning applications received

N/038/00181/18	Mrs Cooper	<i>No objections subject to neighbours</i>
N/037/00339/18	New Plough Inn	<i>***see below</i>
N/037/01723/17	Mr Ramsden	<i>Sent to inspectorate for appeal.</i>
N/037/01988/14	Mr Ramsden	<i>Sent to inspectorate for appeal, all in favour of resubmitting original comments.</i>
N/038/00413/18	R/o Harbour Cottage	

****Cllr Denny proposed to object to change of use, seconded by Cllr Burd. Vote taken 5 in favour, 2 against. Resolved to object to change of use.*

b) Planning decisions received

N/037/02346/17	Thomas Centre	Approved
N/037/01978/17	Mr/s Near	Approved
N/038/00067/18	Southfield Farm	Approved
N/038/00068/18	Mr/s Denny	Approved

*Cllr Bridges suggested contacting ELDC to find out if Covenham PC replied to the Local Plan. Cllr Denny to research.

27/18. Correspondence

- ELDC - Road closures.
- ELDC - Plough Inn enforcement reply letter

28/18. Parish Council matters

- a) Parish Rooms – Clerk to keep ringing surveyors.
Jubilee Committee does not believe it should pay for hiring the Parish Rooms as it is working for the community. Cllr Denny proposed no hire fee for Jubilee Committee, seconded by Cllr Wiltshire, all in favour. Resolved Jubilee committee not to be charged for hire.
- b) Website and transparency fund – Cllr Burd completed and submitted application to Transparency Fund. Cheque for £415 has been received for purchase of laptop and printer.
- c) Mobile speed signs – Cllr Wiltshire to gather column numbers for survey and send to Clerk. Clerk to then arrange survey application.
- d) The Plough building – Postpone the decision on the COVCOM hub Plough plan until later in year proposed by Cllr Denny, seconded by Cllr Wiltshire. All in favour. Resolved to postpone the decision.
- e) Police panel representative – Cllr Burd proposed Cllr Denny to be the representative, seconded by Cllr Wiltshire, all in favour. Resolved Cllr Denny to join the Police panel.
- f) St. Mary's and St. Barts churchyard tree work – Cllr Denny has contacted ELDC about which trees in the village and both churchyards have TPO's on them, still waiting for a reply. 110 hedging plants from Woodland Trust to be planted in St. Bart's churchyard this weekend by volunteers.
- g) Retention of Phone box/defibrillator – Cllr Denny has contacted BT and put in application to adopt the phone box. Cllr Firth has visited Little Carlton who have already got a defibrillator in the phone box to see how it works. Cllr Firth to approach Little Carlton again for more information on costs involved etc.
- h) Size of Covenham village – Cllr Denny has contacted ELDC and has been told that as long as there are 2 pubs in the village (regardless of whether they are closed or derelict) the village will still be classed as medium on the criteria scale. If either pub changed its use then Covenham would be reclassified as a small village.
- i) Fixed Asset Register – Cllr Cooling to look for Fixed Asset Register.

29/18 Financial matters

- a) Financial update - Proposed to accept by Cllr Burd, seconded by Cllr Field, all in favour.
- b) Bills for payment on 13th March 2018
 - Clerk's salary and expenses £210 + £4.50
 - LALC annual subscription £161.66
 - LALC Annual Training scheme £ 70.00

Proposed by Cllr Burd and seconded by Cllr Denny. 'These sums be paid'.

Carried unanimously

30/18. Extraordinary items (for information purposes only)

LALC annual training scheme costs £70 which would entitle all Councillors and the Clerk to attend as many training sessions as they want within the year. There would be an extra cost of £8.50 per person for full day sessions to cover refreshments. The Clerk has recommended that all new Councillors attend a Councillor Training Day event. The Clerk has also asked to

attend an IT course. Cllr Wiltshire proposed paying for the annual training subscription, seconded by Cllr Tall, all in favour.

Cllr Denny reported there will be a High Tea held by the Eleemosary Charity on 15th April for all residents of the village to attend. A flyer advertising the event will be sent out.

31/18. Next agenda

Summer fete, Eleemosary Charity

32/18. Dates for next meeting

Tuesday 1st May 2018 + Annual Council Meeting.

33/18. COUNCIL'S OPTION OF CLOSED SESSION

- Council decided not to go into closed session. Meeting finished at 9.45pm.